THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF M. KAMSON): (a) The number of cases registered and the number of cases in which accused were convicted and acquitted after the enactment of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, i.e. with effect from 15.11.1985 to 30.11.1985 is as under:—

Year	Cases registered	Cases in which culprits convicted	Cases in which accused acquitted
1985	715	65	510
1986	2290	159	1074
1987	1403	160	406
1988	1392	213	285
1989	1346	160	267
1990	1421	227	290
1991	1187	106	113
1992	902	144	75
1993	761	141	14
1994	701	49	6
1995 (upto 30.11.95)	736	63	3

(b) Out of the total acquittal cases, forty-nine have ended due to improper investigation or laxity in prosecution such as:

(i) careless or hurried investigation;

(ii) delay in submitting challan;

(iii) delay in submission of the report of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory;

(iv) not producing the case property properly;

(v) failure to take public witnesses at the time of search, etc.

Action taken against the police officials found involved in such cases is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Punishment Awarded	Number of Police Officials
Dismissal	1
Reduction in Rank	1
Withholding of increment	1
Forfeiture of service	2
Censure	25
Warning	8
Transfer to non-sensitive units Pending cases DE under consideration	2 8
Show Cause Notices for Censure issued which were later on filed on considering reply	10

Improving the Roads and Highways

2437. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the automobile industry of the country has recently signed a number of MOUs for joint ventures with their counterparts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the current liberalisation process has neglected the construction of roads and highways for smooth running of the

sophisticated cars coming on the roads as a result of joint ventures; and

(c) whether Government have drawn any plan to update the roads and highways of the country in view of these facts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. This Ministry is mainly concerned with the development and maintenance of National Highways only. Five Year Plans and Annual Plans are drawn up for development of National Highways. Improvements are carried out subject to availability of resources. Further, under the current liberalisation process, Government has also permitted private sector participation for the development of roads and bridges on the National Highways.

Installation of Hydro-Desulphuriser in Madras Refineries Ltd.

2438. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras Refineries Limited has submitted any proposal to instal a diesel hydro-desulphuriser to meet the revised sulpher specifications in diesel; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Madras Refineries Limited has submitted for Ist Stage Clearance of the proposal to set up a diesel hydro-desulphurisation unit of 1.8 MMTPA capacity, to produce diesel with a sulphur content of 0.25% wt. maximum, to meet the revised specification. The proposal is under process for Ist Stage clearance.

Revenue earned from speed post

2439. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) The total tonnage carried by speed post in 1993, 1994 and from January to June, 1995 and what was the revenue received in the above period from speed post traffic both within the country and for articles sent abroad;

(b) how many vehicles are earmarked for exclusive work of speed post in Bombay city;

(c) whether they are used for the purpose for which they are earmarked;

(d) whether there have been any deviations in the year 1994 and January to June in 1995; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken and what is the nature of deviations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of speed post articles booked and the revenue realised during 1993-94 and 1995 are as under:—

1993-94

No. of articles booked	Revenue
1,09,34,725	Rs. 50,12,78,624.00

1994-95

1,24,71,957	Rs. 54,17,99,229.00

(b) 23 vehicles are being used exclusively for speed post in Bombay city.

(c) and (d) Vehicles are being used for the purpose for which they are earmarked. There was no deviation in the year 1994 and January to June 1995.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.